

**2007/3**



Climate coalitions:  
a theoretical and computational appraisal

Thierry Bréchet, François Gérard  
and Henry Tulkens

CORE DISCUSSION PAPER  
2007/3

**Climate coalitions: a theoretical and computational appraisal**

Thierry BRECHET<sup>1</sup>, François GERARD<sup>2</sup> and Henry TULKENS<sup>3</sup>

February 2007 - This version: November 2007

**Abstract**

Using an updated version of the CWS model (introduced by Eyckmans and Tulkens in *Resource and Energy Economics* 2003), this paper intends to evaluate with numbers the respective merits of two competing notions of coalition stability in the standard global public goods model as customarily applied to the climate change problem. After a reminder of the model structure and of the definition of the two game theoretical stability notions involved – namely, core stability and internal-external stability, the former property is shown to hold for the grand coalition in the CWS model only if resource transfers of a specific form between countries are introduced. It is further shown that while the latter property holds neither for the grand coalition nor for most large coalitions, it is nevertheless verified in a weak sense that involves transfers (dubbed "potential internal stability") for most small coalitions. The reason for this difference is brought to light, namely the differing rationale that inspires the transfers in either case. Finally, it is shown that the stable coalitions that perform best (in terms of carbon concentration and global welfare) always are composed of both industrialized and developing countries. Two sensitivity analyses confirm the robustness of all these results.

**Keywords:** climate change, coalitions, simulation, integrated assessment

**JEL classification:** C71, C73, D9, D62, F42, Q2

---

<sup>1</sup> CORE and Louvain School of Management, Chair Lhoist Berghmans in Environmental Economics and Management, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium. E-mail: brechet@core.ucl.ac.be

<sup>2</sup> CORE and Chair Lhoist Berghmans in Environmental Economics and Management, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

<sup>3</sup> CORE, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium. E-mail: tulkens@core.ucl.ac.be

The authors are grateful to Johan Eyckmans for sharing with them the program code of the CWS model. This research is part of the CLIMNEG project, funded by Belgian Science Policy (contract CP/05A).

This paper presents research results of the Belgian Program on Interuniversity Poles of Attraction initiated by the Belgian State, Prime Minister's Office, Science Policy Programming. The scientific responsibility is assumed by the authors.

# 1 Introduction

The global public good character of combating the effects of climate change requires voluntary cooperation amongst countries if any improvement upon the *laissez faire* business-as-usual is sought for. Such cooperation, institutionalized in international environmental treaties, consists in joint actions decided and implemented by the signatory countries. Negotiated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol represents the first legally binding agreement on climate. As such, it is now considered as a decisive step. However it is widely acknowledged that, in order to be environmentally effective, post-Kyoto agreements should include more countries and yield stronger carbon emission abatement. This twin issue (which countries and how much more abatement?) is at the heart of the on-going negotiation process that currently prepares, under the UNFCCC, for the post 2012 world climate regime.

Calling a “coalition” any set of countries thus joining their efforts against climate change, an abundant literature has developed over the last 15 years dealing with the issue of the likelihood of “stable” climate coalitions. In that literature, two stability concepts<sup>1</sup> are competing, and an early summary of that competition was reported in Tulkens (1998) with an update in Chander and Tulkens (2006). Up to then, the confrontation of the two notions has been exclusively conceptual; leaving it to the reader to evaluate their respective merits.

In this paper we wish to make the comparison at another level, namely the one of applications with their implied policy relevance. For that purpose, we make use of a numerical integrated assessment model, namely the ClimNeg World Simulation (henceforth CWS) model, which lends itself to proceed fairly easily to the comparison we are interested in. Such a numerical approach of the coalitional stability problem has been initiated in Eyckmans and Tulkens (2003), who actually introduced the CWS model and used it to explore one of the two conceptual theses just mentioned. This was followed and pursued in Carraro, Eyckmans and Finus (2006), who explored with CWS the other thesis. By putting together these two explorations with an updated version of the CWS model, the present paper presents an explicit comparison, with the purpose of bringing to light the properties of potential coalitions in three respects: stability, climate performance and global welfare.

The contribution of our paper is twofold. First, it is methodological. By testing on the same integrated assessment model the two alternative game theoretic stability concepts, we better show their relative merits. Second, the paper contributes to the policy debate. Assessing the properties of alternative climate coalitions in a concrete numerical context gives a powerful justification for recommendations as to the size and nature (homogeneity *vs* heterogeneity) of possible climate coalitions. Moreover, by showing explicitly which transfers among countries are appropriate to stabilize efficient coalitions, the paper also identifies wider room for negotiation.

The paper is structured as follows. After this introduction, Section 2 presents the reader with the basic game theoretic concepts involved in the coalition stability notions we wish

---

<sup>1</sup>One of the two concepts is often assimilated with “self enforcement” (of treaties signed by members of stable coalitions), as suggested initially by Barret (1994) and elaborated upon in Barret (2003). Actually, this attractive expression applies equally well to both stability concepts. There is thus no gain in using it here.

to put to a test. Section 3 presents the CWS integrated assessment model, including the updated exogenous data it makes use of by now. Section 4 contains the main numerical results on the two alternative stability concepts when applied to the CWS model, and Sections 5 and 6 comment on the issues of homogeneity *vs* heterogeneity, aggregate welfare and environmental performance of alternative coalitions in that model. Some sensitivity analyzes are presented in Section 7 and the concluding Section 8 summarizes our main findings.

## 2 The conceptual framework

### 2.1 The climatic-economic model and its associated games

The methodology we are using requires to make precise the relationship between the economic model (CWS) and the games from which the alternative stability concepts are borrowed. In this section we deal with the game theoretic framework while the economic model will be described in Section 3.

Two categories of games are involved, namely cooperative and non-cooperative ones. In either case the players are the countries, each player's strategies are the values chosen for the economic decision variables and the players payoffs are the countries' welfare level at the end of that period. A family of  $n$  such strategies, one for each player, defines what we call in the following section *scenario*. Among the many conceivable ones we shall deal with (i) the Nash equilibrium scenario, (ii) various scenarios of partial agreement Nash equilibrium with respect to given coalitions, and (iii) the Pareto efficient scenario.

Non-cooperative games are those that consider strategies enacted by individual players; they lead essentially to the Nash equilibrium concept. Cooperative games, by contrast, typically consider in addition the strategies chosen jointly by groups of players, usually called coalitions, that is, subsets of players (including singletons and the all players set). In either case the behavioral assumption is made that the strategy chosen by individual players as well as the strategies chosen jointly by coalitions result from payoff maximization over some feasible set: the individual payoffs in the non-cooperative setting, the joint payoffs of the coalition members in the cooperative setting, this joint payoff being called the *worth* of the coalition.<sup>2</sup>

### 2.2 The stability concepts

#### 2.2.1 "Gamma core" stability

In general, the core-stability theory focuses on strategies chosen jointly by the members of the grand coalition, that is, the set  $\mathcal{N}$  of all players. The behavioral assumption just mentioned implies that, in the CWS model,  $\mathcal{N}$  chooses the Pareto efficient scenario.

This scenario and the grand coalition that generates it are then said to be *stable in the core sense* if the scenario belongs to the core of a suitably defined cooperative game, that is, if

---

<sup>2</sup>We deal only with transferable utility (TU) games, for two reasons. On the one hand, at the theoretical level, the stability concepts we use have been developed for such games only; on the other hand, only TU games are used in applied numerical works such as this one.

it is such that (i) no individual player can reach a higher payoff by *not* adopting the strategy assigned to him in the efficient scenario and choosing instead the best individual strategy he could find; and (ii) no subset of players, smaller than  $\mathcal{N}$ , can similarly do better for its members, that is, by rejecting the strategies assigned to them by the efficient scenario and adopting a strategy of their own. Consequently, the grand coalition  $\mathcal{N}$  is called strategically stable and its scenario may rightly be dubbed *self enforceable* since no coalition can find a better one for its members.

Formally, let  $i$  refer to players ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ),  $S \subseteq \mathcal{N}$  denote a coalition, let the scalar  $W(S)$  be the worth of coalition  $S$  and the vector  $W = (W_1, \dots, W_i, \dots, W_n)$  denote an imputation<sup>3</sup>. The imputation  $W$  will be said to belong to the core of the cooperative game if the individual payoffs  $W_i$  satisfy the following property:

- Property *CR: Coalitional rationality*  $\forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N}, \quad \sum_{i \in S} W_i \geq W(S)$

Notice that this property implies:

- Property *IR: Individual rationality*  $\forall i \in \mathcal{N}, \quad W_i \geq W(\{i\})$

To be complete, the formal statement of these two properties should further specify what are the players' strategies implicit in the right hand sides of these expressions, namely  $W(\{i\})$  and  $W(S)$ . In the former, the strategy and the ensuing payoff of player  $i$  are those of the Nash equilibrium scenario; in the latter, the worth of coalition  $S$  is the sum of the payoffs obtained by the members of  $S$  as they result from enacting the joint strategy that maximizes this sum; this is the scenario dubbed above partial agreement Nash equilibrium (*PANE*) with respect to a coalition.<sup>4</sup>

### 2.2.2 Internal-external stability

Rather than focusing on strategies of the grand coalition, the internal-external stability theory considers *any* coalition  $S$  and the payoffs of its members at the corresponding *PANE* scenario<sup>5</sup>. It then considers the strategies and the resulting individual payoffs that can be reached by every player along that scenario according to whether he is inside or outside of the coalition<sup>6</sup>. Being inside means for the player to follow the strategy he is assigned to within the coalition he is a member of, whereas being outside means behaving as a singleton, taking as given the behavior of the coalition he is not a member of as well as of the other players (assumed to behave as singletons too). A coalition  $S$  and the *PANE* scenario it

---

<sup>3</sup>An imputation is any vector of individual payoffs  $W$  such that their sum is equal to the worth of the grand coalition, formally:  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} W_i = W(\mathcal{N})$ . By construction it is induced by an efficient strategy.

<sup>4</sup>In a partial agreement Nash equilibrium with respect to a coalition, the coalition members are assumed, as usual, to maximize their joint payoffs; but it is assumed in addition – and this is not usual – that the players outside of the coalition choose, as singletons, the strategy that maximizes their individual payoff, given what the coalition and the other singletons do. The equilibrium concept derived from this assumption (called the “gamma” assumption) was introduced in Chander and Tulkens (1995) & (1997) as the essential building block of the “gamma core” concept they proposed, which is to be used hereafter. A powerful further justification of the assumption is provided in Chander (2003).

<sup>5</sup>Thus, the gamma assumption is used here too.

<sup>6</sup>It is assumed that a player can only either join the coalition or remain alone.

generates are then said to be *stable in the internal-external sense* if the scenario is such that no insider prefers to stay out of the coalition and no outsider prefers to join the coalition rather than stay aside. Consequently, the coalition  $S$  is called stable and its *PANE* scenario *self enforceable*, not by reference to alternative coalitions as in the preceding concept, but instead because of the structure of the individual motivations of the players within and outside the coalition.

Formally, letting  $W_i(S)$  denote the individual payoff of player  $i$  when coalition  $S$  is formed, this means that the payoffs satisfy the following two properties <sup>7</sup>:

- Property *IS: Internal Stability*      $\forall i \in S, \quad W_i(S) \geq W_i(S \setminus \{i\})$
- Property *ES: External Stability*      $\forall i \notin S, \quad W_i(S) \geq W_i(S \cup \{i\})$

## 2.3 Transfer schemes

It has often been suggested that when a coalition and its strategies are not stable, transfers of payoffs (of economic goods, in economic games) between players may induce stability. To what extent is this the case for each of the two forms of stability just defined?

In the context of the core-stability theory, transfers were proposed by Chander and Tulkens (1995, 1997) for the standard game with multilateral externalities used to deal with international environmental agreements. They proved analytically that transfers formulated as follows induce the stability property.

Let  $W_i^{Nash}$  be the payoff of player  $i$  at the Nash equilibrium of the non-cooperative game, that is, in absence of cooperation; and let

$$W^*(\mathcal{N}) = (W_1^*, \dots, W_n^*),$$

be the payoff vector of the players at the Pareto efficient solution of the cooperative game. The transfers consist of the following payoff amounts (positive if received, negative if paid by  $i$ ):

$$\Psi_i = -(W_i^* - W_i^{Nash}) + \pi_i \left( \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} W_j^* - \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}} W_j^{Nash} \right) \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad (1)$$

with  $\pi_i \geq 0 \forall i$  such that  $\sum_i \pi_i = 1$ .

These transfers guarantee that each player receives a payoff at least equal to what it is in case of no cooperation and it divides the surplus of cooperation over non-cooperation according to weights  $\pi_i$ . In the multilateral environmental model, each weight is equal to the ratio of player  $i$ 's marginal damage cost over the sum over all players of such marginal damage costs. With these weights, the payoff vector<sup>8</sup>

$$W^*(\mathcal{N}) + \Psi_{\mathcal{N}} =_{def} (W_1^* + \Psi_1, \dots, W_n^* + \Psi_n),$$

---

<sup>7</sup>The internal-external stability concept originates in the work of d'Aspremont *et al.* (1983) on the stability of cartels and has been imported in the literature on IEAs by Carraro and Siniscalco (1993) and Barrett (1994). The way it is presented here – in particular its connection with the *PANE* concept – owes much to Eyckmans and Finus (2004).

<sup>8</sup>That  $W^*(\mathcal{N}) + \Psi_{\mathcal{N}}$  is an imputation follows from the fact that (1) implies  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} \Psi_i = 0$ , *i.e.* the transfers budget balances.

is shown by Chander and Tulkens (1995, 1997) to belong to the core of the game.

The internal-external stability theory proposes no specific transfer formula but introduces instead the notion of *potentially internally stable* coalitions. A coalition (of any size) is potentially internally stable if it can guarantee to all its members at least their free-rider payoff. For a given a coalition, the free-rider payoff of any of its members is the payoff the member would obtain in the *PANE* scenario *w.r.t.* that coalition if he would stay out and behave as a singleton in the face of that coalition.

Formally, for any coalition  $S$ , this reads as follows:

$$\text{Property PIS: Potential Internal Stability} \quad W(S) \geq \sum_{i \in S} W_i(S \setminus \{i\}) \quad (2)$$

The free rider payoff of a player  $i$  *vis-à-vis* some coalition  $S$  – that is, each term of the sum in the right hand side of (2) – may be seen as the minimum payoff player  $i$  requires to remain a member of the coalition. Coalitions whose worth under their *PANE* is large enough to meet this requirement for all their members can thus be stabilized at least internally<sup>9</sup>.

The two approaches rest on different views when applied to international environmental agreements. The core-stability approach assumes that, if one or several countries attempt to free-ride on an efficient agreement with transfers, the other countries do not cooperate among themselves anymore, so as to make the free rider see that the country is better off by not free riding. This threat is what induces stability. In the internal-external stability approach, stability of an agreement within a coalition obtains if no individual country attempts to free-ride on it, assuming that free riding does not prevent the other countries from keeping cooperation among themselves.

### 3 The ClimNeg World Simulation model (CWS)

#### 3.1 Overview of the model

The ClimNeg World Simulation model (CWS) is an integrated assessment model of climate change and optimal growth, adapted for coalitional analysis from Nordhaus and Yang (1996). It encompasses economic, climatic and impact dimensions in a worldwide intertemporal setting. As a Ramsey-type model, growth is driven by population growth, technological change and capital accumulation. The time dimension is discrete, indexed by  $t$ , finite, but very long. The world is split into six countries/regions: USA, Japan, Europe<sup>10</sup>, China, the Former Soviet Union and the Rest of the World. In each country/region<sup>11</sup>  $i = 1, \dots, n$  gross output is given by a Cobb-Douglas production function combining capital and population. Population is exogenous. Capital accumulation comes from (endogenous) gross investment less (exogenous) scrapping. Technical progress is Hicks-neutral. Carbon emissions stem

---

<sup>9</sup>By using the *Almost Ideal Sharing Scheme* introduced in Eyckmans and Finus (2004). “Sharing scheme” indicates that the authors do not propose a particular solution but are interested instead in identifying a class of sharing rules that stabilizes all *PIS* coalitions.

<sup>10</sup>Europe is defined as EU-15.

<sup>11</sup>For short, we henceforth use only *country*.

from global output with an emission coefficient which can be reduced by national policies,  $\tilde{\sigma}_{i,t} = (1 - \mu_{i,t})\sigma_{i,t}$ , where  $\mu_{i,t} \in (0, 1)$  stands for the carbon abatement rate and  $\sigma_{i,t}$  is the exogenous carbon intensity of the economy. Abatement costs are given by an increasing and convex cost function  $C_i(\mu_{i,t})$ . Carbon emissions accumulate in the atmosphere. Concentration, through a simplified carbon cycle, yields a global mean temperature, expressed as temperature change with respect to pre-industrial level,  $\Delta T_t$ . The impacts of global warming in each country are considered through damage cost functions  $D_i(\Delta T_t)$ , increasing and convex. Thus, consumption is given by the gross output minus investment, abatement costs and damage costs,  $Z_{i,t} = Y_{i,t} - I_{i,t} - C_i(\mu_{i,t}) - D_i(\Delta T_t)$ .

The welfare of each country is measured as the aggregate discounted consumption until the end of the period.

The model is used to determine, over the period 2000-2300, paths of investment ( $I_{it}$ ) and emissions (through  $\mu_{it}$ ) over time and, consequently, capital accumulation, carbon concentration, temperature change and finally consumption, all at the world and country levels.

This economic model is converted into a six players game by letting the six countries be the six players, whose strategies are the decision variables  $I_{it}$  and  $\mu_{it}$  over the entire period 2000-2300, and whose individual payoffs are their respective aggregate discounted consumptions until the end of the period, as they result from capital accumulation, carbon concentration and temperature change.

The players-countries strategies are specified according to three alternative scenarios. First, the *Nash equilibrium* scenario<sup>12</sup>, which is the joint outcome of each country maximizing its welfare taking the actions of the others as given. Second, the *partial agreement Nash equilibria with respect to a coalition* scenarios<sup>13</sup>, each of which is the outcome of a subset of countries maximizing jointly their welfare, while the others act individually (there are as many such scenarios considered as there are coalitions). And third, the *Pareto efficient* scenario where all countries act jointly so as to maximize the world welfare.

The dynamic optimization problems whose solutions are the numerical values of each one of these scenarios are stated in Table I in the appendix. Parameter values as well as initial values are gathered there also. The justification for (exogenous) discount rates equal to 1.5% in developed countries and 3.0% in developing ones is given in ET-03.<sup>14</sup>

Finally, transfers between countries are, as in ET-03, *generalized GTT transfers*, that is, an extension by Germain, Toint and Tulkens (1997) to the present dynamic context of the Chander and Tulkens (1995-1997) transfers mentioned above.

## 3.2 Data set and calibration

In this paper we use an updated version of the CWS model. For two main sets of assumptions, time has revealed strong departing evolutions from what was expected a few years ago. These

<sup>12</sup>In the terminology of dynamic noncooperative games, this is an open loop Nash equilibrium. Closed loop or feedback Nash equilibria have also been introduced in dynamic core-stability analysis in Germain, Toint, Tulkens and de Zeeuw 2003, albeit with a simpler model. An extension to the CWS model is still awaiting.

<sup>13</sup>These are of open loop nature as well

<sup>14</sup>The model runs under GAMS. All codes are available from the authors upon request.



are population growth and technological progress. Table 1 in the appendix displays our assumptions, previous ones (those used in Eyckmans and Tulkens (2003) – ET-03 hereafter) and current ones. Some comments are given hereafter.

As far as population growth is concerned, the CWS model in ET-03 was using population forecasts of Nordhaus and Yang (1996), which came from the United Nations. A positive growth was expected in every region. Our update is based on the latest publications of the United Nations, *World Population to 2300* (2004) and *World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision* (2005). At this horizon, world population is expected to reach 9 billion people, 1 billion less than the previous forecast. More important, the time profiles of various regions become more contrasted. Europe, Japan and China face a peak in their population between 2020 and 2030, or even before, and then experience a decline. The population in the Former Soviet Union is expected to decrease. In the USA, the population increase should be stronger than expected, mainly because of immigration and fertility rates. In the Rest of the World, short-term population growth would be stronger, but followed by a stronger slowdown. We assume that, in each country population size converges to a steady state value in the long run.

In the CWS model technological progress encompasses two elements, the global factor productivity and the carbon intensity of economic activity. As far as the former is concerned, high positive trends are expected for China and the USA, while lower progress would occur in Japan, the Former Soviet Union (FSU) and the Rest of the World (ROW). The most striking update concerns carbon intensities which have exhibited contrasting patterns in the recent years. Our data come from the International Energy Agency for carbon emissions and from the World Bank for GDP<sup>15</sup>. Apparently, stringent industrial adjustments are in place that could yield sharp decreases in carbon intensities. This is particularly true for China and FSU. On the contrary, recent trends in Japan and ROW suggest lower carbon improvements than expected. No major changes have been noticed for the EU and the USA in comparison with the former version of CWS.

This update has two main consequences for climate issues. Firstly, world emissions are lower in the business-as-usual scenario than they were in ET-03. But, secondly, heterogeneity among countries is reinforced: national emission profiles are lower in all countries, in particular in China, while the USA experiences higher emissions. The implication of this is that the relative weight of the different countries in the global issue has significantly changed, and so did the costs and benefits of each country to participate to a given climate agreement. As a consequence, these new economic patterns may have major implications on a country's attitude towards climate negotiations, towards the coalitions they might form and on the room for agreement<sup>16</sup>.

---

<sup>15</sup>In fact, we use the *Climate Analysis Indicators Tool* of the *World Resources Institute* that gathers data from the International Energy Agency and the World Bank.

<sup>16</sup>A complete description of the update is provided in Gerard (2006, 2007).

## 4 Stability analysis of coalitions

We now apply the different concepts of coalition stability to the numerical CWS model, in both its original (CWS 1.1) and updated (CWS 1.2) versions. Given the six regions, 63 coalitions can possibly form, for each of which we compute its worth  $W_S$  in the sense of the gamma-characteristic function, that is, at a partial agreement Nash equilibrium of the model. This is done according to formula (25)-(26) in ET-03.

### 4.1 Core-stability

Let us focus first on the results for the cooperative approach as they appear in Tables 2 and 3. In either table, the first column contains a six digit key specifying the structure of the coalition: if a region is a member of the coalition, it obtains a “1” at the appropriate position in the key. For instance, the key “111111” refers to  $S = \mathcal{N} = \{USA, JPN, EU, CHN, FSU, ROW\}$ . Column 2 contains the worth of a coalition (that is the aggregate welfare of its members,  $W(S)$ ) at its corresponding partial agreement Nash equilibrium and column 3 contains the total of what members of each coalition get at the efficient allocation, as achieved by the grand coalition without transfers ( $W_S^* = \sum_{i \in S} W_i^*$ ). Column 4 gives the difference between the values of the two previous columns. If this difference is negative, it means that  $S$  is worse off in the grand coalition. Column 6 gives the total amount of generalized *GTT* transfers for the coalition  $S$  ( $\Psi_S = \sum_{i \in S} \Psi_i$ ).

Comparing the two tables reveals that:

1. Without transfers, the world efficient allocation, which needs the grand coalition to be achieved, is not core-stable: 14 smaller coalitions (out of 63) can improve upon it in CWS 1.1 and 18 coalitions can do so in the updated version. Thus, in either case, the grand coalition without transfers cannot form. Note that among the 18 blocking coalitions in the update, 14 are all those that were blocking in CWS 1.1.
2. With transfers, the world efficient allocation is core-stable in either case. In CWS 1.2, the amount of the transfers is in general smaller except for the USA. This last result is in line with the two main consequences of the update as presented before: less emissions in every region (the extent of the externality is reduced) except in the USA.

The first result is especially important, as it confirms with two versions of the CWS model the possibility of achieving core stability of the world efficient allocation, thanks to *GTT* transfers. The concept thus appears as robust to updating. The presence of four newly blocking coalitions may be seen as revealing an increased instability of the efficient allocation without transfers. But this makes the transfers all the more necessary if efficiency is being sought in the international agreement.

**Table 2: Coalitions payoffs at all *PANE* w.r.t. a coalition ( $W_s^*$ ) and at EFF ( $W_s^*$ ); generalized *GTT* transfers ( $?_s$ ) (billion 1990 US\$): Eyckmans and Tulkens (2003)**

key	$W(S)$	$W_s^*$	$W_s^* - W(S)$	(%)	$?_s$	$W_s^* + ?_s$	$W_s^* + ?_s - W(S)$	(%)
Coalitions of 1 country								
100000	78353	78986	633	0,808	-282	78704	351	0,448
010000	42909	43222	313	0,729	-121	43102	192	0,448
001000	102731	103650	919	0,895	-423	103226	496	0,482
000100	9141	8862	-279	-3,057	333	9195	54	0,591
000010	23794	24025	231	0,969	-123	23902	108	0,452
000001	81137	81093	-44	-0,054	616	81709	572	0,705
Coalitions of 2 countries								
110000	121264	122208	945	0,779	-403	121806	542	0,447
101000	181090	182636	1546	0,854	-706	181930	841	0,464
100100	87535	87848	312	0,357	51	87899	364	0,416
100010	102151	103011	860	0,842	-405	102605	455	0,445
100001	159829	160079	250	0,156	334	160413	584	0,365
011000	145642	146872	1230	0,845	-544	146328	686	0,471
010100	52062	52084	22	0,043	213	52297	235	0,451
010010	66705	67247	542	0,813	-244	67003	299	0,448
010001	124262	124315	53	0,043	495	124511	548	0,441
001100	111946	112511	566	0,505	-90	112421	476	0,425
001010	126531	127674	1143	0,903	-546	127128	597	0,471
001001	184315	184743	427	0,232	192	184935	620	0,336
000110	32944	32886	-58	-0,175	210	33097	153	0,463
000101	90467	89955	-512	-0,566	949	90904	437	0,483
000011	105134	105118	-17	-0,016	493	105610	476	0,453
Coalitions of 3 countries								
111000	224007	225858	1851	0,826	-826	225032	1024	0,457
110100	130486	131070	584	0,448	-69	131001	515	0,394
110010	145067	146233	1166	0,804	-526	145707	641	0,442
110001	202879	203301	422	0,208	213	203514	635	0,313
101100	190415	191497	1083	0,569	-372	191125	711	0,373
101010	204903	206660	1757	0,857	-829	205832	928	0,453
101001	263009	263729	719	0,274	-90	263639	630	0,239
100110	111367	111872	505	0,453	-72	111800	433	0,389
100101	169139	168941	-199	-0,117	667	169608	468	0,277
100011	183752	184103	352	0,191	211	184314	562	0,306
011100	154905	155734	829	0,535	-211	155523	618	0,399
011010	169448	170897	1448	0,855	-667	170230	781	0,461
011001	227376	227965	589	0,259	72	228037	661	0,291
010110	75880	76109	229	0,301	90	76198	318	0,420
010101	133513	133177	-336	-0,252	829	134006	492	0,369
010011	148160	148340	180	0,121	372	148712	552	0,372
001110	135788	136536	748	0,551	-213	136323	535	0,394
001101	193681	193604	-76	-0,039	526	194130	450	0,232
001011	208255	208767	512	0,246	69	208837	582	0,279
000111	114376	113979	-397	-0,347	826	114805	429	0,375
Coalitions of 4 countries								
111100	233398	234720	1322	0,566	-493	234227	829	0,355
111010	247830	249883	2053	0,828	-949	248933	1104	0,445
111001	306113	306951	838	0,274	-210	306741	628	0,205
110110	154332	155095	763	0,494	-192	154902	571	0,370
110101	212255	212163	-92	-0,043	546	212710	454	0,214
110011	226825	227326	501	0,221	90	227416	591	0,261
101110	214285	215522	1237	0,577	-495	215027	741	0,346
101101	272543	272590	48	0,018	244	272834	292	0,107
101011	286996	287753	757	0,264	-213	287540	544	0,190
100111	193119	192965	-154	-0,080	544	193509	390	0,202
011110	178761	179758	998	0,558	-334	179425	664	0,372
011101	236817	236827	10	0,004	405	237232	415	0,175
011011	251338	251990	652	0,259	-51	251938	600	0,239
010111	157457	157202	-255	-0,162	706	157907	451	0,286
001111	217685	217629	-57	-0,026	403	218032	346	0,159
Coalitions of 5 countries								
111110	257284	258744	1461	0,568	-616	258129	845	0,328
111101	315738	315813	75	0,024	123	315936	198	0,063
111011	330123	330976	853	0,258	-333	330642	519	0,157
110111	236267	236188	-79	-0,033	423	236611	344	0,146
101111	296612	296615	3	0,001	121	296736	124	0,042
011111	260851	260851	1	0,000	282	261134	283	0,108
Coalitions of 6 countries								
111111	339837	339837	0	0,000	0	339837	0	0,000

**Table 3: Coalitions payoffs at all *PANE* w.r.t. a coalition ( $W_s^*$ ) and at EFF ( $W_s^*$ ); generalized *GTT* transfers ( $?_s$ ) (billion 1990 US\$): This version**

key	$W(S)$	$W_s^*$	$W_s^* - W(S)$	(%)	$?_s$	$W_s^* + ?_s$	$W_s^* + ?_s - W(S)$	(%)
Coalitions of 1 country								
100000	148266	148946	680	0,459	-312	148633	368	0,248
010000	30645	30755	110	0,359	-42	30714	68	0,222
001000	108413	108886	473	0,437	-209	108677	265	0,244
000100	36156	36064	-92	-0,256	196	36260	104	0,288
000010	9745	9790	44	0,454	-23	9766	21	0,217
000001	52326	52107	-219	-0,419	389	52496	170	0,325
Coalitions of 2 countries								
110000	178914	179701	787	0,440	-354	179347	433	0,242
101000	256690	257832	1141	0,445	-521	257311	621	0,242
100100	184488	185009	521	0,283	-116	184893	406	0,220
100010	158016	158735	720	0,455	-335	158400	384	0,243
100001	200852	201052	200	0,100	77	201130	277	0,138
011000	139059	139641	582	0,418	-84	139558	498	0,358
010100	66804	66819	15	0,023	155	66973	170	0,254
010010	40391	40544	154	0,381	-65	40480	89	0,220
010001	83016	82862	-154	-0,185	348	83210	194	0,233
001100	144602	144949	348	0,240	-12	144937	335	0,232
001010	118160	118675	515	0,436	-232	118444	283	0,240
001001	160901	160993	92	0,057	181	161173	273	0,170
000110	45902	45853	-49	-0,107	173	46026	124	0,271
000101	88532	88170	-362	-0,409	586	88756	224	0,253
000011	62103	61896	-207	-0,333	366	62263	160	0,257
Coalitions of 3 countries								
111000	287346	288587	1241	0,432	-563	288024	679	0,236
110100	215156	215764	608	0,283	-158	215607	451	0,209
110010	188665	189490	825	0,438	-377	189113	448	0,238
110001	231556	231808	251	0,109	35	231843	287	0,124
101100	293010	293895	885	0,302	-324	293571	560	0,191
101010	266446	267621	1175	0,441	-544	267077	631	0,237
101001	309540	309938	398	0,129	-132	309807	267	0,086
100110	194248	194799	551	0,284	-139	194660	412	0,212
100101	237156	237116	-40	-0,017	274	237389	234	0,098
100011	210630	210842	212	0,101	54	210896	266	0,126
011100	175264	175705	440	0,251	-54	175651	386	0,220
011010	148808	149431	623	0,418	-274	149157	349	0,235
011001	191595	191748	153	0,080	139	191887	292	0,152
010110	76553	76609	56	0,073	132	76740	187	0,245
010101	119214	118926	-289	-0,242	544	119469	255	0,214
010011	92776	92652	-125	-0,134	324	92976	200	0,216
001110	154358	154739	381	0,247	-35	154704	346	0,224
001101	197157	197057	-101	-0,051	377	197433	276	0,140
001011	170672	170782	110	0,065	158	170940	268	0,157
000111	98294	97960	-334	-0,340	563	98522	228	0,232
Coalitions of 4 countries								
111100	323695	324650	956	0,295	-366	324284	590	0,182
111010	297104	298376	1272	0,428	-586	297791	687	0,231
111001	340268	340694	426	0,125	-173	340520	253	0,074
110110	224919	225554	635	0,282	-181	225373	454	0,202
110101	267888	267871	-17	-0,006	232	268103	215	0,080
110011	241338	241597	259	0,107	12	241609	271	0,112
101110	302782	303685	903	0,298	-348	303337	555	0,183
101101	345972	346002	30	0,009	65	346067	95	0,028
101011	319333	319728	395	0,124	-155	319573	240	0,075
100111	246948	246905	-43	-0,017	250	247156	208	0,084
011110	185022	185494	472	0,255	-77	185417	395	0,213
011101	227875	227812	-64	-0,028	335	228147	272	0,119
011011	201370	201538	168	0,083	116	201653	283	0,141
010111	128982	128715	-267	-0,207	521	129236	254	0,197
001111	206940	206846	-94	-0,046	354	207200	260	0,125
Coalitions of 5 countries								
111110	333468	334440	971	0,291	-389	334051	582	0,175
111101	376733	376757	24	0,006	23	376780	47	0,012
111011	350063	350483	420	0,120	-196	350287	223	0,064
110111	277685	277661	-25	-0,009	209	277869	184	0,066
101111	355782	355791	9	0,003	42	355833	51	0,014
011111	237663	237601	-62	-0,026	312	237913	251	0,105
Coalitions of 6 countries								
111111	386547	386547	0	0,000	0	386547	0	0,000

## 4.2 Internal-external stability

Table 4 (next page) presents the results for the non-cooperative approach. The columns refer, for the various coalitions, to the three different stability properties (internal (*IS*), external (*ES*), and potential internal (*PIS*)) proposed by this approach. A cross in a column means that the property is satisfied for the corresponding coalition. We summarize the results as follows, distinguishing again between without and with transfers cases:

- Internal and external stability: In both CWS 1.1 and CWS 1.2, very few coalitions pass the *IS* test (8 or 7 of them, out of 57<sup>17</sup>). In particular, the grand coalition, that is, the one that would achieve the world efficient allocation without transfers, does not pass it. More coalitions (11, or 15, out of 56 – the grand coalition is irrelevant here) pass the *ES* test. No coalition passes both tests however, except for one, namely the couple USA, EU which does so only in CWS 1.2.
- Potential internal stability: Contrary to the *IS* and *ES* tests, the *PIS* test is one that implicitly refers to transfers within the coalitions, with the purpose of inducing internal stability. Here again, the grand coalition does not pass the test, but many smaller coalitions do in both CWS 1.1 and 1.2. More precisely, all of the five-country coalitions, 5 out of the 15 four-country coalitions and 2 out of the three-country coalitions did not pass the test in CWS 1.1. In the update, 4 five-country coalitions and 5 four-country coalitions do not pass the test whereas 1 five-country and all other coalitions of four countries or less do pass it, as revealed by Table 6.

## 4.3 Core and internal-external stability compared

Considering the grand coalition  $N$ , we can report the following three results:

1. Without transfers, the world efficient allocation, that only the grand coalition can achieve, is lacking stability in both the core sense and the internal-external sense when computed with the CWS model.
2. By contrast, if transfers are introduced, the world efficient allocation achieved by  $\mathcal{N}$  can be stabilized in the core sense, by means of *GTT* transfers within the grand coalition.
3. This is not possible in the internal-external sense, however, by means of *PIS* transfers.

The reason for this difference is in the logic that lies behind the two stability concepts: in the core case, stability of  $\mathcal{N}$  is obtained from threatening the objecting parties to be deprived of any part in the surplus generated by the collective move to efficiency. In the internal-external stability case, stability should result from offering each country its free rider payoff; but it occurs that the surplus generated by the move to efficiency is insufficient for ensuring that to *all* countries. This is due to the structure of the economic model, not to the internal-external stability concept itself.

---

<sup>17</sup>Here we exclude singletons.

**Table 4: Non cooperative stability properties satisfied by different coalitions**

	Carraro, Eyckmans and Finus (2006)			This version		
Coalition	<i>IS</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>PIS</i>	<i>IS</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>PIS</i>
Coalitions of 2 countries						
USA,JPN	X		X			X
USA,EU		X	X	X	X	X
USA,CHN			X			X
USA,FSU			X			X
USA,ROW	X		X			X
JPN,EU		X	X			X
JPN,CHN			X			X
JPN,FSU			X			X
JPN,ROW	X		X	X		X
EU,CHN			X			X
EU,FSU			X			X
EU,ROW	X		X			X
CHN,FSU			X	X		X
CHN,ROW			X	X		X
FSU,ROW	X		X	X		X
Coalitions of 3 countries						
USA,JPN,EU		X	X		X	X
USA,JPN,CHN			X			X
USA,JPN,FSU			X			X
USA,JPN,ROW	X		X			X
USA,EU,CHN					X	X
USA,EU,FSU		X	X		X	X
USA,EU,ROW			X		X	X
USA,CHN,FSU			X			X
USA,CHN,ROW			X			X
USA,FSU,ROW	X		X			X
JPN,EU,CHN			X			X
JPN,EU,FSU		X	X			X
JPN,EU,ROW			X			X
JPN,CHN,FSU						X
JPN,CHN,ROW			X			X
JPN,FSU,ROW	X		X	X		X
EU,CHN,FSU			X			X
EU,CHN,ROW			X			X
EU,FSU,ROW			X			X
CHN,FSU,ROW			X	X		X
Coalitions of 4 countries						
USA,JPN,EU,CHN		X			X	
USA,JPN,EU,FSU		X			X	X
USA,JPN,EU,ROW		X	X		X	
USA,JPN,CHN,FSU						X
USA,JPN,CHN,ROW			X			X
USA,JPN,FSU,ROW			X			X
USA,EU,CHN,FSU					X	
USA,EU,CHN,ROW			X		X	
USA,EU,FSU,ROW			X		X	
USA,CHN,FSU,ROW			X			X
JPN,EU,CHN,FSU						X
JPN,EU,CHN,ROW			X			X
JPN,EU,FSU,ROW			X			X
JPN,CHN,FSU,ROW			X			X
EU,CHN,FSU,ROW			X			X
Coalitions of 5 countries						
USA,JPN,EU,CHN,FSU		X			X	
USA,JPN,EU,CHN,ROW		X			X	
USA,JPN,EU,FSU,ROW		X			X	
USA,JPN,CHN,FSU,ROW						X
USA,EU,CHN,FSU,ROW					X	
JPN,EU,CHN,FSU,ROW						
Coalitions of 6 countries						
Grand coalition		irrelevant			irrelevant	

*IS* = Internal Stability, *ES* = External Stability, *PIS* = Potential Internal Stability.  
 “x” means that the property is satisfied for the coalition.

As far as coalitions other than  $\mathcal{N}$  are concerned, none of them can evidently be stable in the core sense because it is precisely the meaning of the core result that  $\mathcal{N}$  with transfers can improve upon any of them. Concerning their stability in the internal-external stability sense, one finds in Tables 2 (or 3) and 4 hardly any correlation between those coalitions that meet either internal or external stability (coalitions with an 'x' in the *IS* or *ES* columns of Table 4) and those which could block in the core sense the efficient allocation without transfers (coalitions with a negative sign in column 4 of Tables 2 and 3). In short, this is because *the reasons for blocking* (which are, for the members of  $S$ , the hope to do better by themselves) *are fundamentally different from those for free riding* (which are the search for benefit from the others' actions). This last argument also explains why the *PIS* property prevails better with small coalitions: *vis-à-vis* a small coalition, there is little to free ride about (because the coalition does not achieve much), so that the surplus generated can be sufficient to deter from such behavior.

In summary, the core *vs* internal-external stability concepts have quite opposing properties, not only as to the grand coalition,  $\mathcal{N}$ , but also for smaller ones. One concept excludes small coalitions, whereas the other concept can be found to be satisfied with small coalitions.

## 5 Stability *vs* performance

Can policy implications be derived from the above stability discussion and simulation results? In particular, how important are the coalitional stability properties we have identified? Should they serve as an argument to support or advocate specific structures for climatic international agreements such as small coalitions rather than large ones, or homogeneous rather than heterogeneous ones?

To answer these questions, let us consider two criteria measuring the global outcome resulting from an agreement, that is,

- the aggregate welfare level reached at the world level,
- the environmental performance achieved, expressed by atmospheric carbon concentration.

and consider how these are met by alternative coalition structures. This is done in Figure 1 with the numerical results of CWS 1.2. On the two axes, we use a welfare and an environmental index respectively, that we borrow from CEF-06. Both indexes give the value 1 to the world efficient allocation (the grand coalition case) that produces the highest aggregate welfare and the lowest carbon concentrations, and the value 0 to the non-cooperative Nash case, that depicts the lowest aggregate welfare and the highest carbon concentrations. Formally, the indexes are computed as follows:

- Welfare index: 
$$I^W(S) = \frac{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (W_i(S) - W_i^{Nash})}{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} (W_i^* - W_i^{Nash})} ,$$
- Environmental index: 
$$I^E(S) = \frac{M_{2300}^{Nash} - M_{2300}(S)}{M_{2300}^{Nash} - M_{2300}^*} ,$$

where  $\sum_{i \in \mathcal{N}} W_i(S)$  and  $M_{2300}(S)$  are respectively the aggregate welfare and carbon concentration levels in 2300 under the corresponding coalition structure  $S$ , while “\*” refers to the world efficient allocation (full cooperation) and “Nash” refers to the Nash case (no cooperation). An increasing relation is obtained with the non-cooperative Nash equilibrium (lowest global welfare, highest carbon concentration) at the bottom left and the grand coalition (highest global welfare, lowest carbon concentration) at the top right.

Remembering that internal stability in its potential form prevails with small coalitions while core-stability is achieved only with the largest one, the relation also depicts both the welfare and the environmental performances of alternative coalition sizes.

Clearly, accepting or recommending small coalition arrangements because of their potential internal stability virtues entails a loss on both counts, that striving for an efficient and core stable alternative could avoid. Internal stability thus appears to be a weakly desirable objective.

## 6 Is coalition homogeneity desirable?

A common argument in the climate policy debate is that developed countries should engage themselves first, after what developing countries would be invited to join the agreement and participate to the mitigation of global warming. Although this argument seems reasonable on the basis of historical responsibilities<sup>18</sup>, one may question its effectiveness. In this section we analyze the how the composition of a coalition, that is, its degree of *homogeneity*, which is to be defined), affects its stability.

The regions/countries considered in the CWS model can be split into two categories:

- developed-Annex B countries (USA, EU and JPN), with high per capita emissions and GDP,
- developing-non-Annex B countries (CHN and ROW), with low per capita emissions and GDP, and low-cost abatement opportunities.

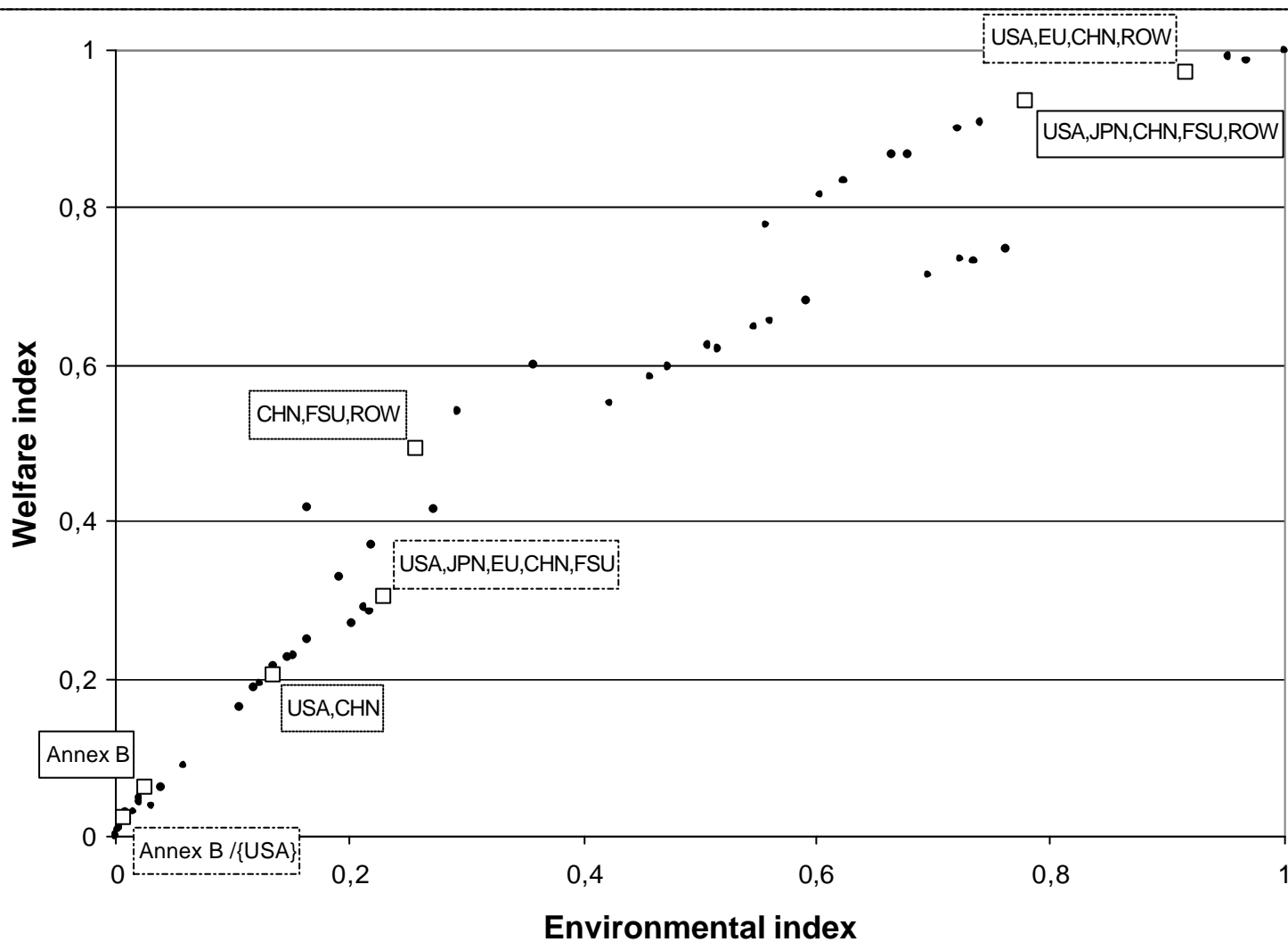
In the following we will talk about an *heterogeneous coalition* when a coalition is formed by countries coming from more than a single category. Conversely, an *homogeneous coalition* will designate a coalition formed by countries from a single category. The FSU will move as a free electron in this categorization as it offers the characteristics of both a developed country (high emissions per capita) and a developing one (low cost abatement opportunities, low GDP per capita). Accordingly, our 57 coalitions (excluding singletons) are broken down into 42 heterogeneous coalitions and 15 homogeneous ones. We examine the relation mentioned above, successively without and with transfers

---

<sup>18</sup>This is the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities of countries enounced in the UN Framework Convention.



**Figure 1: Global outcome (aggregate welfare and the environment) with alternative coalition structures**  
 (..... = *IS*; \_\_\_\_\_ = *PIS*; - - - - = *not PIS*)



In the no transfer case, there appears to be more homogeneous stable coalitions after the update and less heterogeneous stable coalitions. Indeed on the one hand, in CWS 1.1 only 2 out of the 8 internally stable coalitions are homogeneous coalitions. With CWS 1.2, all the 4 homogeneous coalitions involving FSU and developing-non-Annex B countries pass now the *IS* test and the coalition {USA, EU} becomes both internally and externally stable.

On the other hand, in CWS 1.1, 6 of the 8 internally stable coalitions were heterogeneous coalitions (out of 42). With the update, two of these 6 heterogeneous coalitions still pass the *IS* test but those coalitions include only JPN as developed-Annex B country, which is the least important emitter of the six regions in both versions<sup>19</sup>. Moreover, in CWS 1.1, 4 coalitions involving at least one of the two main polluters in each category, that is, (USA or EU) and (CHN or ROW) passed the *IS* test. With the update, none of these coalitions passes this test anymore<sup>20</sup>. So, less heterogeneous coalitions are stable in the *IS-ES* sense after the update. In the same vein, finally, the grand coalition, clearly the largest heterogeneous one, is never core-stable without transfers in either version, with four more blocking coalitions after the update.

When the possibility of transfers is introduced, stability appears also to be enhanced by homogeneity after the update. In CWS 1.1, only 1 out of the 15 homogeneous coalitions did not pass the *PIS* test. That coalition, the Annex B coalition {USA, JPN, EU, FSU}<sup>21</sup>, does satisfy the *PIS* property with the update. So it seems that there is more room for cooperation between these countries today than ten years earlier. Furthermore, with the update the Annex B coalition turns out to be more stable than the “Annex B without the USA” coalition<sup>22</sup>. Indeed, this latter coalition does not satisfy the *ES* property (the property was satisfied with CWS 1.1). This means that the United States would be better off by coming back to the Annex B coalition.

In CWS 1.1, 13 heterogeneous coalitions were not stable in the *PIS* sense. In CWS 1.2, this figure is only 11 but the composition of these coalitions has changed to some extent. Indeed, no four-country (or more) coalitions involving both the USA and the EU and at least one non-Annex B countries pass the *PIS* test after the update.

Homogeneity *vs* heterogeneity can also be analyzed by Figure 1. One can see that the *best* (in terms of global welfare) homogeneous coalition, namely {CHN, FSU, ROW}, leads to far lower global welfare and far higher carbon concentrations than both the *best* heterogeneous coalition (the grand coalition) and the *best* heterogeneous coalition satisfying the *PIS* property, that is, {USA, JPN, CHN, FSU, ROW}. As a consequence, promoting homogeneous coalitions would lead to very low mitigation policies at the world level, unable to tackle climate change issue as heterogeneous (larger) coalitions could do.

Finally, there seems to be a trade-off between stability and environmental effectiveness. Homogeneity in climate coalitions fosters stability but is detrimental to climate effectiveness.

---

<sup>19</sup>JPN is less important in terms of emissions than USA or EU and even more with the update. In CWS 1.1, JPN emission share in the emissions of its category evolves as follow: 12% in 2000, 14% in 2050 and 12% in 2200. In CWS 1.2, those figures are: 12% in 2000, 8% in 2050 and 6% in 2200.

<sup>20</sup>Moreover, in both versions, none of the coalitions that involve the two main emitters of a category and at least one emitter of the other category is internally stable.

<sup>21</sup>The so-called *Old Kyoto* coalition in CEF-06.

<sup>22</sup>The so-called *Present Kyoto* coalition in CEF-06.

## 7 Sensitivity analyses

The objective of this section is to test to what extent our results are robust to the choice of some key parameters. Extensive sensitivity analyses have revealed that two assumptions may be key (Gerard, 2006). The first one is the evolution of carbon intensity ( $\sigma_{i,t}$  in equations of Table I) in China in the forthcoming years, and the second one is the slope of the damage functions in all countries.

China is expected to become the world largest carbon emitter soon, but *when* heavily depends on the assumption made on technological progress. In our model, carbon intensity and total factor productivity are calibrated and projected on the basis of past profiles, which yields a quite rapid – and optimistic – decarbonization of the Chinese economy in the forthcoming decades. As a first sensitivity analysis, we reduced the rate of decarbonization by half, while keeping the asymptotical value unchanged. This raises Chinese emissions by 60% in the *business-as-usual* scenario in 2100 while the level of emissions in the very long-term is kept unchanged. The fact that Chinese emissions are higher increases the climate externality generated (the effect of its own strategy on the other countries) and therefore the possible gain from cooperation. However, the free-riding incentive may also be stronger for the other countries in the coalitions including China because these coalitions will internalize a larger part of the global externality. Both effects potentially raise concern for stability.

The model shows that the gain in world welfare between the Nash equilibrium and the efficient scenarios is slightly increased by around 1%. Our main results on the core-stability of the grand coalition and the best *PIS* coalition (which includes China) still prevail. The effect on the stability of coalitions without China is negative: the difference between the aggregate welfare of the coalition and the sum of the free-riding claims of its members (definition of the *PIS* property) decreases for 23 out of the 26 coalitions considered; indeed, such coalitions internalize a smaller part of the externality. However, the effect on the coalitions including China is less clear: it increases for 16 out of 31 coalitions, but decreases for 18. In short, the model confirms the mechanisms at stake in this test and our main conclusions remain valid. The surprise may be that the effect on global welfare gain from cooperation is quite low.

The second sensitivity analysis concerns the damage functions. These, still borrowed from Nordhaus and Yang (1996), bear major uncertainties. The relationship between global temperature increase and climatic impacts is highly difficult to quantify, and the most recent studies (including the Stern Review and the Fourth IPCC Assessment Report) seem to suggest higher damage sensitivity. We did this by increasing the exponent of the damage functions ( $\theta_{i,2}$  in equations of Table I) by 50% in all countries. Intuitively, this will reinforce the climate externality, and thus the desirability of cooperation. But, it is difficult to infer, *a priori*, the implication for stability because the free-riding incentive may also be stronger when the coalitions try to better internalize the climate externality.

After computation the CWS model confirms that the gain in global welfare associated with cooperation is stronger, and this time the increase is significant (the gain is three times higher). However, even with such a strong incentive for cooperation, our main results on core-stability of the grand coalition and the best *PIS* coalition remain valid. This means that the stronger gain from cooperation dominates the reinforcement of the free-riding incentives. No clear conclusion can be drawn about the impact on the stability of the other coalitions.

Indeed, the difference between the aggregate welfare of the coalition and the sum of the free-riding claims of its members increases for 38 out of 57 coalitions, but decreases for 19 others, making 6 coalitions no more *PIS*. The increase concerns mainly small coalitions, for which we have already mentioned that there is less to free-ride about.

## 8 Conclusion

In the context of international climate agreements, two game theoretic approaches discuss the stability of climate coalitions, using different stability concepts. With the CWS model (recently updated), this paper numerically compares and contrasts the results obtained from either approaches. It turns out that transfers are required to ensure the stability of most coalitions whatever the concept used. But transfers are not equally successful to stabilize coalitions in both approaches because of the logic that lies behind the two concepts. More precisely, if transfers can make the grand coalition stable in the gamma-core sense, it is never the case in the internal-external sense; only smaller coalitions, where there is less to free-ride about, are found stable in this sense, with transfers. Moreover we note that homogeneity among the members of a coalition appears to help the potential internal stability of a coalition. But the global outcome in terms of aggregate welfare or environmental performance as reached by small or homogeneous coalitions is far less attractive compared with the heterogeneous world efficient allocation. Thus, according to our simulations, promoting small or homogeneous coalitions for internal stability purposes is not a desirable recommendation.

## References

- [1] Barrett, S. (1994). ‘Self-enforcing international environmental agreements’, *Oxford Economic Papers*, 46, 804-878.
- [2] Barrett, S. (2003). *Environment and Statecraft: The strategy of Environmental Treaty-Making*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.
- [3] Carraro, C. and Siniscalco, D. (1993). ‘Strategies for the international protection of the environment’, *Journal of Public Economics*, 52(3), 309-328.
- [4] Carraro, C., Eyckmans, J. and Finus, M. (2006). ‘Optimal transfers and participation decisions in international environmental agreements’, *Review of International Organizations*, 1(4), 379-396.
- [5] Chander, P. and Tulkens, H. (1995). ‘A core-theoretic solution for the design of cooperative agreements on transfrontier pollution’, *International Tax and Public Finance*, 2(2), 279-294. Reprinted as chapter 5 (pp. 81-96) in: A. Ulph (ed.), *Environmental Policy, International Agreements, and International Trade*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2001.
- [6] Chander, P. and Tulkens, H. (1997). ‘The core of an economy with multilateral environmental externalities’, *International Journal of Game Theory*, 26, 379-401.
- [7] Chander, P. (2003). ‘The Gamma-core and Coalition Formation’, CORE discussion paper 2003/46 (revised: June 2006), forthcoming in: *International Journal of Game Theory*, 2007.
- [8] Chander, P. and Tulkens, H. (2006). *Cooperation, stability and self-enforcement in international environmental agreements: a conceptual discussion*. Core Discussion Paper 2006/03, forthcoming in: R. Guesnerie and H. Tulkens (eds.), *The Design of Climate Policy, Proceedings of David Bradford Memorial Conference held in Venice CESifo Institute Series*, The MIT Press.
- [9] d’Aspremont, C., Jacquemin, A., Gabszewicz, J.J. and Weymark, J. A. (1983). ‘On the stability of collusive price leadership’, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 16(1), 17-25.
- [10] Eyckmans, J. and Finus, M. (2004). ‘An almost ideal sharing scheme for coalition games with externalities’, CLIMNEG Working Paper 62, Leuven, Belgium: Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.
- [11] Eyckmans, J. and Tulkens, H. (2003). ‘Simulating coalitionally stable burden sharing agreements for the climate change problem’, *Resource and Energy Economics*, 25, 299-327.
- [12] Germain, M., Toint, P.L., Tulkens, H. and de Zeeuw, A. (2003), ‘Transfers to Sustain Dynamic Core-Theoretic Cooperation in International Stock Pollutant Control’, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 28, 79-99.

- [13] Gerard, F. (2006). *Formation des coalitions pour les négociations climatiques internationales : Une approche par le modèle CWS*. Master's degree thesis, Department of Economics, Université catholique de Louvain.
- [14] Gerard, F. (2007). *CWS 1.2, une mise à jour du modèle CWS*, CLIMNEG Working Paper 80, CORE, Université catholique de Louvain.
- [15] Germain, M., Toint, P.L. and Tulkens, H. (1997). 'Financial transfers to ensure international optimality in stock pollutant abatement', in: F. Duchin, S. Faucheux, J. Gaudy I. and Nicolai (eds.), *Sustainability and firms: technological change and changing regulatory environment*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham UK - Brookfield US.
- [16] Nordhaus, W.D. and Yang, Z. (1996). 'A regional dynamic general-equilibrium model of alternative climate-change strategies', *American Economic Review*, 86(4), 741-765.
- [17] Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (2004). *World Population to 2300*. United Nations Publication: New York.
- [18] Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (2005). *World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision*. United Nations Publication: New York.
- [19] Tulkens, H. (1998). 'Cooperation vs. free riding in international environmental affairs: two approaches', in: N. Hanley and H. Folmer (eds), *Game Theory and the Environment*, Chapter 2, 30-44, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham.
- [20] World Resources Institute (2007). *Climate Analysis Indicators Tool (CAIT) version 4.0*. Available at <http://cait.wri.org>.

**Table 1: Population and technological change data update in CWS**

	Population (millions)				Technological change							
					Carbon intensity of GDP (kgC/1990 US\$)				Total factor productivity (index)			
	ET-03		This version		ET-03		This version		ET-03		This version	
	2020	2100	2020	2100	2020	2100	2020	2100	2020	2100	2020	2100
USA	280.6	294.3	338.4	454.1	0.178	0.117	0.167	0.112	11.15	19.53	12.38	23.35
JPN	124.5	124.5	126.6	111.6	0.075	0.062	0.088	0.069	13.91	23.97	10.69	16.95
EU	403.3	427.0	391.1	377.0	0.094	0.073	0.086	0.071	10.23	18.50	10.43	19.31
CHN	1431.7	1655.8	1395.7	1272.5	1.181	0.499	0.524	0.153	0.90	4.66	2.04	13.55
FSU	332.5	366.3	276.2	244.8	0.773	0.318	0.706	0.228	2.35	7.49	1.74	4.40
ROW	4713.7	6737.9	4914.7	6389.4	0.285	0.176	0.290	0.197	2.37	7.36	1.66	3.73

**Table I: Equation listing of the CWS model (for a country  $i$ )**

$\text{Max}_{\{\mathbf{m}_{i,t}, I_{i,t}\}_{t=0, \dots, T}} W_i = \sum_{t=0}^T \frac{Z_{i,t}}{[1 + \mathbf{r}_i]^t}$	(A.1)
$s.t.$	
$Y_{i,t} = A_{i,t} K_{i,t}^g L_{i,t}^{1-g}$	(A.2)
$Y_{i,t} = Z_{i,t} + I_{i,t} + C_i(\mathbf{m}_{i,t}) + D_i(\Delta T_t)$	(A.3)
$K_{i,t+1} = [1 - \mathbf{d}_K]^{10} K_{i,t} + 10 I_{i,t} \quad K_{i,0} \text{ donné}$	(A.4)
$E_{i,t} = \mathbf{s}_{i,t} [1 - \mathbf{m}_{i,t}] Y_{i,t}$	(A.5)
$C_i(\mathbf{m}_{i,t}) = Y_{i,t} b_{i,1} \mathbf{m}_{i,t}^{b_{i,2}}$	(A.6)
$M_{t+1} = \overline{M} + \mathbf{b} \sum_{i=1}^n E_{i,t} + (1 - \mathbf{d}_M) [M_t - \overline{M}] \quad M_0 \text{ donné}$	(A.7)
$F_t = \frac{4.1 \ln(M_t / M_0)}{\ln(2)}$	(A.8)
$T_t^o = T_{t-1}^o + \mathbf{t}_3 [\Delta T_{t-1} - T_{t-1}^o] \quad T_0^o \text{ donné}$	(A.9)
$\Delta T_t = \Delta T_{t-1} + \mathbf{t}_1 [F_t - I \Delta T_{t-1}] - \mathbf{t}_2 [\Delta T_{t-1} - T_{t-1}^o] \quad \Delta T_0 \text{ donné}$	(A.10)
$D_i(\Delta T_t) = Y_{i,t} \mathbf{q}_{i,1} \left( \frac{\Delta T}{2.5} \right)^{\mathbf{q}_{i,2}}$	(A.11)



**Table II: List of variables**

$Y_{i,t}$	Production (billions 1990 US\$)
$A_{i,t}$	Productivity
$Z_{i,t}$	Consumption (billions 1990 US\$)
$I_{i,t}$	Investment (billions 1990 US\$)
$K_{i,t}$	Capital stock (billions 1990 US\$)
$L_{i,t}$	Population (million people)
$C_{i,t}$	Cost of abatement (billions 1990 US\$)
$D_{i,t}$	Damage from climate change (billions 1990 US\$)
$E_{i,t}$	Carbon emissions (billions tons of C)
$s_{i,t}$	Carbon intensity of GDP (kgC/1990 US\$)
$\mu_{i,t}$	Carbon emission abatement rate
$M_t$	Atmospheric carbon concentration (billions tons of C)
$F_t$	Radiative forcing (Watt per m <sup>2</sup> )
$?T_t$	Temperature increase atmosphere (°C)
$T_t^o$	Temperature increase deep ocean (°C)
$W_i$	Welfare (billions 1990 US\$)

**Table III: Global parameter values**

$d_K$	Capital depreciation rate	0.10
$?$	Capital productivity parameter	0.25
$\beta$	Airborne fraction of carbon emissions	0.64
$d_M$	Atmospheric carbon removal rate	0.08333
$t_1$	Parameter temperature relationship	0.226
$t_2$	Parameter temperature relationship	0.44
$t_3$	Parameter temperature relationship	0.02
$?$	Feedback parameter	1.41
$\overline{M}$	Pre-industrial carbon concentration	590
$M_0$	Initial carbon concentration in 2000	783 <sup>a</sup>
$?T_0$	Initial temperature change atmosphere in 2000	0.622 <sup>b</sup>
$T_0^o$	Initial temperature change deep ocean in 2000	0.108 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Initial carbon concentration in 1990 (ET-03) was 750 billions tons of C.

<sup>b</sup> Initial temperature change atmosphere in 1990 (ET-03) was 0.5°C.

<sup>c</sup> Initial temperature change deep ocean in 1990 (ET-03) was 0.10°C.

**Table IV: Regional parameter values**

	$\gamma_{i1}$	$\gamma_{i2}$	$b_{i,1}$	$b_{i,2}$	$\gamma_i$
	Damage function		Abatement cost function		Discount rate
USA	0.01102	2.0	0.07	2.887	0.015
JPN	0.01174	2.0	0.05	2.887	0.015
EU	0.01174	2.0	0.05	2.887	0.015
CHN	0.01523	2.0	0.15	2.887	0.030
FSU	0.00857	2.0	0.15	2.887	0.015
ROW	0.02093	2.0	0.10	2.887	0.030

**Table V: 2000 reference year variables**

	$Y_{i,0}$	(%)	$K_{i,0}$	(%)	$L_{i,0}$	(%)	$E_{i,0}$	(%)
USA	7563.8099	27.45	19740.6885	27.97	282.224	4.66	1.5738	24.01
JPN	3387.9305	12.29	9753.9695	13.82	126.870	2.10	0.3295	5.03
EU	8446.9010	30.65	22804.4771	32.31	377.136	6.23	0.8875	13.54
CHN	968.9064	3.52	2686.0563	3.81	1262.645	20.86	0.9468	14.44
FSU	558.4360	2.03	1490.0376	2.11	287.893	4.76	0.6258	9.55
ROW	6633.4274	24.07	14105.2089	19.98	3715.663	61.39	2.1918	33.44
World	27559.4112	100.0	70580.4379	100.0	6052.4310	100.0	6.5552	100.0
	billion	(%)	billion	(%)	million	(%)	billion tons of	(%)
	1990 US\$		1990 US\$		people		carbon (GtC)	

**Table VI: 1990 reference year variables (ET-03)**

	$Y_{i,0}$	(%)	$K_{i,0}$	(%)	$L_{i,0}$	(%)	$E_{i,0}$	(%)
USA	5464.796	25.9	14262.510	26.3	250.372	4.8	1.360	22.8
JPN	2932.055	13.9	8442.250	15.6	123.537	2.4	0.292	4.9
EU	6828.042	32.4	18435.710	34.0	366.497	7.0	0.872	14.6
CHN	370.024	1.8	1025.790	1.9	1133.683	21.5	0.669	11.2
FSU	855.207	4.1	2281.900	4.2	289.324	5.5	1.066	17.9
ROW	4628.621	22.0	9842.220	18.1	3102.689	58.9	1.700	28.5
World	21078.750	100.0	54290.380	100.0	5266.100	1000	5.959	100.0
	billion	(%)	billion	(%)	million	(%)	billion tons of	(%)
	1990 US\$		1990 US\$		people		carbon (GtC)	